

2014 // 15 SEASON

Northrop Presents

**CCN DE CRÉTEIL ET DU VAL-DE-MARNE/
COMPAGNIE KÄFIG**

**Tue, Mar 10, 7:30 pm
Carlson Family Stage**

Correria Agwa





Dear Friends of Northrop,

Welcome to Compagnie Käfig, which brings a jolt of Brazilian sunshine and sparkling energy to our Minnesota winter. We've welcomed artists from near and far this season, confirming that dance is, indeed, a universal art form. Tonight's artists, like so many others we've seen on the Northrop stage, cross many boundaries—both geographically and artistically.

Based in France, Compagnie Käfig is led by Mourad Merzouki, a choreographer of French-Algerian descent. He grew up in a working-class suburb of Lyon, one of eight children, and was encouraged to take up boxing and circus arts at an early age. He was then drawn to hip-hop as a teenager, even though, he says, "In my culture, nobody dances." But he fell in love with the form, explaining, "...if I dance, I think I will never die. It's as important as that."

The life-affirming power of dance certainly figures in the story of tonight's program. It all started with a chance encounter

at the Lyon Dance Biennial in 2006 between our choreographer and 11 young male dancers from Rio de Janeiro. While the dancing was bursting with fun, humor and vitality, it was the dancers' irresistible personalities that inspired Merzouki. He was captivated by their stories of growing up in Rio's favelas, and their commitment to creating opportunities for themselves despite the challenges of their circumstances.

Correria (running) and *Agwa* (water) both draw from these stories, as well as from the dancers' own movement vocabulary. Each is a dynamic fusion of hip-hop, samba, capoeira, circus, and contemporary dance styles. *Correria* plunges us into a frantic, hectic race just like the one that governs our daily lives. *Agwa* is all about water—the most vital component of the human body, a precious natural resource to be preserved, and a symbol of renewal.

I hope you get caught up in the infectious, boundary-defying energy that is Compagnie Käfig. Thank you for joining us tonight.

Sincerely,
Christine Tschida

Christine Tschida
Director of Northrop

NEXT UP AT NORTHROP: MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY in two different evenings of repertoire, including Graham classics, and works from contemporary choreographers that explore Graham's legacy. Performances on Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11, at 8:00 pm. Don't miss either one!

Northrop at the University of Minnesota

Presents

CCN DE CRÉTEIL ET DU VAL-DE-MARNE/ COMPAGNIE KÄFIG

Artistic Director
MOURAD MERZOUKI

Dance Artists

DIEGO ALVES DOS SANTOS LEONARDO ALVES MOREIRA EDUARDO AUGUSTO PIRES HERMANSON

CLEITON LUIZ CAETANO DE OLIVEIRA HELIO ROBSON DOS ANJOS CAVALCANTI

GEOVANE FIDELIS DA CONCEICAO DIEGO GONCALVES DO NASCIMENTO LEITAO

ALDAIR JUNIOR MACHADO NOGUEIRA WANDERLINO MARTINS NEVES

JOSÉ AMILTON RODRIGUES JUNIOR ALEXSANDRO SOARES CAMPANHA DA SILVA



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, and a grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota.



This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, Art Works.



The presentation of CCN de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne/Cie Käfig was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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CORRERIA (2010)

Correria (running) plunges us into a frantic, hectic race just like the one that governs our daily lives.

Choreographer, **Mourad Merzouki**, with the collaboration of the dancers
Assistant of the Choreographer, **Laurence Pérez**
Musical Arrangements, **AS'N**
Lighting Design, **Yoann Tivoli**
Stage Design, **Mourad Merzouki and Benjamin Lebreton**
Costume Design, **Delphine Capossela**
Video, **Charles Carcopino**

Production, **Centre Chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne / Compagnie Käfig**
Coproduction, **Espace Albert Camus de Bron**
Acknowledgements, **Studio de la Maison des Arts de Créteil**

INTERMISSION



AGWA (2008)

Agwa (water) is all about water, at once a vital component of our bodies, a precious—vital, even—natural resource to be economized and preserved, and a symbol of renewal.

Choreographer, **Mourad Merzouki**
Assistant of the Choreographer, **Kader Belmoktar**
Musical Director, **AS'N**
Lighting Design, **Yoann Tivoli**
Stage Design, **Mourad Merzouki and Benjamin Lebreton**
Costume Design, **Angèle Mignot**
Light control, **Dominique Palabaud**
Sound control and stage management, **Eric Georges**
Production, **Compagnie Käfig**

Coproduction, **Biennale de la Danse de Lyon and Espace Albert Camus de Bron**
Acknowledgements, **Nouveau Théâtre du 8eme-Lyon, Centro Coreografico de Rio de Janeiro, and the French Consulate at Rio de Janeiro**

Northern American Tour, **Sunny Artist Management Inc.**
Director, **Ilter Ibrahimof** (ilter@sunnyartistmanagement.com)
sunnyartistmanagement.com

Sincere thanks to Guy Darmet, who made this encounter happen.

About *Correria Agwa*

The trigger for *Correria* and *Agwa* was an encounter between Mourad Merzouki and 11 young dancers from Rio de Janeiro at the Lyon Dance Biennial in 2006.

The Brazilian dancers had their roots in the favelas, and their individual stories struck a profound chord with the Company Käfig choreographer. They were all driven by a passion for dance and a fervent determination to make something of their lives by reaching out to others.

The dancers mix complex hip-hop, capoeira, samba, electronic music and bossa nova to bring a dance with amazing acrobatics, stuffed with energy and invention.

**“Combines street dance with the circus
to provide a gasp-worthy, lighthearted,
enormously creative show.”**

—Chicago Tribune



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER

MOURAD MERZOUKI



Photo © Michel Cavalca.

Born in Lyon in 1973, Mourad Merzouki began practicing martial arts and circus arts as early as a seven-year-old. At the age of 15, he encountered hip-hop culture for the first time and through it, discovered dance. Merzouki quickly decided to develop this form of street art while also experimenting with other choreographic styles, particularly with Maryse Delente, Jean-François Duroure and Josef Nadj. The wealth of his experiences fed his desire to direct artistic projects, blending hip-hop with other disciplines. In 1989 he, along with Kader Attou, Eric Mezino, and Chaouki Saïd, created his first company 'Accrorap.' In 1994, the company performed *Athina* during Lyon's Biennial Dance Festival; it was a triumph that brought street dance to the stage.

Merzouki's travels have led him into uncharted territory, where dance can be a powerful means of communication. In order to develop his own artistic style and sensitivity, Merzouki established his own company, Käfig, in 1996. In January 2006, Compagnie Käfig began a period of residence at Espace Albert Camus in Bron. The theatre became the venue of the Karavel Festival, created in 2007 under the leadership of Mourad Merzouki. The festival invites some 10 different hip-hop companies and other initiatives to the city.

In parallel, Merzouki spearheaded the inception of a new center for choreographic creation and development: Pôle Pik opened its doors in Bron in 2009. In June 2009, Merzouki was appointed director of the Centre Chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne. He continues to develop his projects there, with an accent on openness to the world.

In 18 years, Merzouki has created 23 shows and his company gives on average 150 performances per year around the world.

THE ARTISTS

DIEGO ALVES DOS SANTOS

Diego trained in urban dance at the school of Marcia Lacombe and received a diploma from the Univercidade of Rio de Janeiro. In 2003, he studied with Buddha Stretch, Xavier, Nobru de Souza, and Filipi Moura. Since 2000, he has worked with Aline Bittencourt, Fly, and Bruno Williams. Diego teaches break dancing, locking and hip-hop. Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on *Agwa* (2008) and *Correria* (2010). He also danced *Käfig Brasil* at the 2012 Montpellier Festival of Dance.

LEONARDO ALVES MOREIRA

Leonardo learned to dance with the Sindicato dos Profissionais da Dança do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. Since 2007, he has danced with Fly, Dani Boy, Rose and Daddy Kall. Leonardo joined Compagnie Käfig in 2008 for *Agwa*, followed by *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil* (2012). Leonardo also regularly leads workshops in France and Brazil.

EDUARDO AUGUSTO PIRES HERMANSON

Eduardo Augusto Pires Hermanson is a dancer and choreographer from Rio de Janeiro, and was co-director of the Group of Street of Niteroi for more than ten years. In 2007, Eduardo was invited to do a film with the German-French TV ARTE called *Digressions*, a documentary based on one of his dance solos, created by him in partnership with São Paulo's H2 productions, and with the choreographer Bruno Beltrão. He also coordinates the project called "The Working Improv Series" that explores the contact improvisation technique and reviews it through experimentations linked with street dance styles. He has taken part in Compagnie Käfig's productions *Correria Agwa* and *Käfig Brasil* since 2014.

CLEITON LUIZ CAETANO DE OLIVEIRA

Specializing in urban dance since 2006, Cleiton choreographed the works of Cie Espaço arte em movimento (Rio de Janeiro) and led hip-hop classes at the dance school Jaime Arôxa (Rio de Janeiro). Cleiton has danced with Thiaguinho, D'black, and Dupla Dolls. He also leads hip-hop workshops in Brazil and France. He joined the Compagnie Käfig in 2008 for *Agwa*, followed by *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil* (2012).

HELIO ROBSON DOS ANJOS CAVALCANTI

Helio mixes hip-hop culture (graffiti, dj, mc and b-boy), with Brazilian popular cultures from Rio de Janeiro including samba, funk, and capoeira. He has been teaching classes in different districts of Rio de Janeiro, in many communities and NGOs. He takes part in several companies such as Xstyle Dances Company and Cia D'Fora, presented in international festivals like Rio H2K, FIH2 of Curitiba, Intervenção Cacilda Becker, and X-everything. He created and coordinates the project "Hip Hop that comes From within," destined to all people that already dance or to all that want to learn to dance through the experience of the street. In 2014, he joined Compagnie Käfig's productions *Correria Agwa* and *Käfig Brasil*.

GEOVANE FIDELIS DA CONCEICAO

Geovane began street dancing in 2004 and joined the dance collective Soul Brooklyn Crew (Russia). He leads dance classes in Brazil, France and Russia. He has also participated in events such as Urban Groove Steady (Lyon), Street Dance Kemp 2010 (Brazil), Cercle Underground 3 2011 (Paris), 3° House 2011 (Russia), Break Out Battle-jury (Russia), Kaat Festival (Japan), and Cercle Underground 4 (Belgium and Russia). Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of the Compagnie Käfig, with the shows *Agwa* (2008) and *Correria* (2010) and is part of *Käfig Brasil*.

THE ARTISTS

DIEGO GONCALVES DO NASCIMENTO LEITAO

Diego has researched urban dance since 1995. He worked with Regis Yakagi (France) and Regina Sauer, Caio Nunes, Bernardo Stumpf, and Renato Vieira (Brazil). Since 2003, Diego has led street dancing classes at several Rio de Janeiro studios and in several French cities. Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on *Agwa* (2008) and *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil*.

ALDAIR JUNIOR MACHADO NOGUEIRA

Aldair trained with Henry Link, Mr. Wiggles, Buddha Stretch, Archie Burnett, Lando Wilkins, Shaun Evaristo, Federica Naclerio, Kite, Hiro, Yoshie, and Tatsuo, Edson Guiu and Storm. He has participated in dance competitions in several countries, including the USA, Europe, Japan, and Brazil. He has also worked with choreographer Renato Vieira. Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on *Agwa* (2008), *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil*.

WANDERLINO MARTINS NEVES

Wanderlido began dancing in 2000 and joined the dance group Mabe. He then founded a break dance group, Elemento Surpresa, which participated in dance competitions, concerts, and festivals. He joined the Compagnie Käfig in 2008 with the creation *Agwa*, followed by *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil* (2012).

JOSÉ AMILTON RODRIGUES JUNIOR

Jose began studying urban dance in 2003 at the Movimento Art e Cia. Since then, he has developed his technical skills by studying dance in Brazil and around the world. He teaches hip-hop and dances many styles including house, popping, locking, and break dance, in addition to classical and jazz dance. In 2008, he joined Compagnie Käfig for *Agwa*, followed by *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil* (2012).

ALEXSANDRO SOARES CAMPANHA DA SILVA

Alexsandro has worked in urban dance since 2001. In Brazil, he participated in several break dance competitions and commercials. He performed in the feature film *Maré nossa história de amor*. He has led break dancing workshops in France and recently shared the stage with Roll Ballet (USA). Since 2008, he has worked with Compagnie Käfig on *Agwa* (2008) and *Correria* (2010) and *Käfig Brasil* (2012).



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"This [fellowship] has given me support for my grand visions. It gave me the power to create great change in this past year."

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"Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you Northrop and the McKnight Foundation!"



The McKnight Fellowships for Dancers and Choreographers and the McKnight International Artist programs are funded by The McKnight Foundation and administered by Northrop.

McKnight Dance Fellow Sally Rousse. Photo © Tim Rummelhoff.

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Eifman Ballet in *Rodin*. Photo © Nicolay Krusser.

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Martha Graham's Ying Xin in *Diversion of Angels*. Photo © Hibbard Nash Photography.

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Restrooms are located on every level and side of the building, including family restrooms (except on the fourth floor, where there is a women's restroom on the east side, and a men's restroom on the west side only).

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For any ticketing questions, visit U of M Tickets and Events on the ground floor of west and east sides of the building or visit northrop.umn.edu for the most current listing of events.

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For your convenience, U of M Tickets & Events keeps record of your purchase, should you lose or forget your tickets.

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Barbara Land
Vicki Lansky and Stephen Schaefer
William Larson
Linda Leamer
Delores and Sheldon Levin
James and Sharon Lewis
Dr. John and Searcy Lillehei
Perrin Lilly
Bill Lough and Barbara Pinaire
Cal Lueneburg
Holly Manning
Tony and Sally Manzara
Judy R. Matysik
Kathy McGill
James and Mary Ann McKenna
Toni McNaron
Averial Nelson
Andrew and Francie O'Brien
Maureen Pearo
William and Eleanore Pederson
Karyn Pierce
Marcos and Barbara Pinto
Chas. Porter
Possibilitree
Holly Radis-McClusky
Mary Schaffner and Robert Lee
Jon Schasker
Ralph Schnorr
Cindy Sessions
Darlene Sholtis and Heino Beckmann
Joan T. Smith
Cecily Sommers
Lucy and Dave Sontag
Jane Starr
Cheryl Stearns
Stasia Steinhagen
Chris Tschida
Penny P. Truax
Katharine Tyler
Nancy Vanderheider
Dr. Cheryl Wall and Ellen Westenburg
Cathy Westrum and Annelynn Westrum
Stephen Wilbers
Millie Woodbury

Current as of 2/12/15
To correct the listing of your name above, please contact Haley Cramer at cramer117@umn.edu or 612-625-0887.

2014 // 15 SEASON

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

Fri, Apr 10 & Sat, Apr 11 8:00 pm

The acclaimed company performs two different shows, with U of M student dancers taking the stage both nights.

Graham single-handedly defined contemporary dance as a uniquely American art form, crossing artistic boundaries.

EIFMAN BALLETT

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